

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous responses to office action:

1. (Currently Amended) A plasma colloid replacement fluid for replacing target receptor molecules contaminated with at least one inflammatory mediator after the target receptor molecules ~~[[and]]~~ with inflammatory mediators bound to them have been removed from a patient's blood during very large pore hemofiltration which avoids removal of significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar large molecules comprising:

a pharmaceutical grade balanced salt solution having clean target receptor molecules which are not contaminated and which correspond with the target receptor molecules contaminated with inflammatory mediators that have been removed from the patient's blood during ~~[[the]]~~ very large pore hemofiltration which avoids removal of significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar large molecules;

the clean target receptor molecules having binding sites operable to attract inflammatory mediators from tissue spaces and tissue binding sites of the patient;

the clean target receptor molecules ~~including selected from the group consisting of~~ clean albumin, clean receptor molecules and clean carrier molecules; and

sufficient clean albumin ~~molecules~~ to maintain adequate plasma oncotic pressure during ~~[[the]]~~ very large pore hemofiltration which avoids removal of significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar large molecules.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Original) The fluid of Claim 1 further comprising a concentration of albumin in the fluid greater than approximately 0.5 grams per one hundred milliliters.

4. (Original) The fluid of Claim 1 further comprising a concentration of albumin in the fluid less than approximately twenty grams per one hundred milliliters.

5. (Currently Amended) The fluid of Claim 1 further comprising the clean target receptor molecules which are not contaminated corresponding with a plurality of target receptor molecules contaminated with more than one inflammatory mediator removed from the patient's blood.

6. (Currently Amended) A plasma colloid replacement fluid for replacing target receptor molecules contaminated with at least one toxin after the contaminated target receptor molecules have been removed from a patient's blood during very large pore hemofiltration which avoids removal of significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar large molecules comprising:

a pharmaceutical grade balanced salt solution having clean target receptor molecules corresponding with the contaminated target receptor molecules which have been removed from the patient's blood during ~~[[the]]~~ very large pore hemofiltration which avoids removal of significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar large molecules; and

the clean target receptor molecules including selected from the group consisting of albumin, receptor molecules and carrier molecules with sufficient clean albumin to maintain adequate plasma oncotic pressure during ~~[[the]]~~ very large pore hemofiltration which avoids removal of significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar molecules.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Original) The fluid of Claim 6 further comprising a concentration of albumin in the fluid greater than approximately 0.5 grams per one hundred milliliters.

9. (Original) The fluid of Claim 6 further comprising a concentration of albumin in the fluid less than approximately twenty grams per one hundred milliliters.

10. (Previously Presented) The fluid of Claim 6 further comprising the plurality of clean target receptor molecules corresponding with a plurality of target receptor molecules contaminated with more than one toxin removed from the patient's blood.

11. (Currently Amended) A plasma colloid replacement fluid kit for attachment to an extracorporeal blood circuit during very large pore hemofiltration which avoids removal of significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar large molecules, the kit comprising:

a plasma colloid replacement fluid and a reservoir containing the plasma colloid replacement fluid;

the reservoir having at least one port operable to communicate the plasma colloid replacement fluid from the reservoir;

a coupling operable to allow flow of the plasma colloid replacement fluid from the port to the extracorporeal blood circuit;

the plasma colloid replacement fluid formed in part by a pharmaceutical grade balanced salt solution, suitable for infusion into a patient's blood circulatory system, with a concentration of clean albumin at least sufficient to maintain a prescribed albumin concentration in the patient's blood circulatory system;

the concentration of albumin in a range from 0.5 gm/100 ml to 10.0 gm/100 ml;
[[and]]

other clean target receptor molecules disposed in the replacement fluid operable to bind target molecules thereto for removal during [[the]] very large pore hemofiltration[[.]] which avoids removal of significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar large molecules; and

the clean target receptor molecules operable to attract target molecules from tissue spaces and tissue binding sites of the patient.

12. (Currently Amended) An extracorporeal blood circuit for the filtration of a patient's blood comprising:

the circuit operable to remove and to return a portion of a patient's blood;

a blood filter operably coupled with the circuit to allow the portion of the patient's blood to flow therethrough;

the blood filter having an effective molecular weight cutoff sufficiently large to sieve more than a nominal amount of target molecules and target complex molecules from the portion of the patient's blood;

the effective molecular weight cutoff ~~greater than 150,000 Daltons to sieve target molecules and target complex molecules from the portion of the patient's blood and the effective molecular weight cutoff less than approximately 5,000,000 Daltons~~ selected to avoid removal of significant amounts of immunoglobulin to prevent increasing the risk of opportunistic infection;

the blood filter operable to form a filtered blood stream and an ultrafiltrate stream containing the target molecules and the target complex molecules removed from the portion of the patient's blood;

the ultrafiltrate stream not containing significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar large molecules; and

a source for infusing clean albumin and clean target receptor molecules into the filtered blood stream.

13. (Original) The extracorporeal blood circuit of Claim 12, further comprising the effective molecular weight cutoff less than approximately one million Daltons.

14. (Original) The extracorporeal blood circuit of Claim 12, further comprising the effective molecular weight cutoff less than approximately five hundred thousand Daltons.

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) An extracorporeal blood circuit for ~~[[the]]~~ filtration of a patient's blood to remove target molecules and target complex molecules, comprising:
the circuit operable to remove and to return a portion of the patient's blood supply;
a blood filter operably coupled with the circuit to allow the portion of the patients' blood to flow therethrough;

the blood filter and other portions of the circuit operable to remove an ultrafiltrate from the portion of the patient's blood supply with ultrafiltration rates between approximately two liters per hour and twenty liters per hour;

the blood filter having an effective molecular weight cutoff greater than 150,000 Daltons to sieve more than a nominal amount of the target molecules and the target complex molecules from the portion of the patient's blood;

the effective molecular weight cutoff of the blood filter selected ~~less than approximately 5,000,000 Daltons~~ to avoid removal of ~~undesired~~ significant amounts of immunoglobulins and similar large molecules;

a source for infusing a replacement fluid, having ~~corresponding~~ clean target receptor molecules, into the blood circuit to provide sufficient clean target receptor molecules to attract inflammatory mediators and toxins from tissue spaces and tissue binding sites in the patient; ~~[[and]]~~

the clean target receptor molecules in the replacement fluid replacing the target molecules and target complex molecules sieved from the portion of the patient's blood by the blood filter; and

the replacement fluid providing sufficient clean albumin to maintain adequate plasma oncotic pressure with ultrafiltration rates between approximately two liters per hour and twenty liters per hour.